

Salm, Early Industrialist, Dies

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MAN HELD IN CHRISTMAS KILLING

Barber Says Death Was Accidental

A coronor's jury yesterday afternoon ruled that the Christmas evening death of a Torrance housewife was homicide, and that her companion, a Lomita barber, was probably criminally responsible. Held at Torrance jail where he was booked earlier on suspicion of murder was Harold Forsythe Townsend, 38, of 24321 Alliene St.

The dead woman was identified as Mary Magdalene Williams, 47, of 1635 W. 208th St. She was pronounced dead at South Bay Community Hospital Christmas evening after Townsend brought her there in his car.

Det. Sgt. Ralph Walker of the Torrance Police Department said yesterday that the case would be put in the lap of the District Attorney, probably this morning.

TOWNSEND was arrested by Torrance police at the hospital after they had been called by hospital personnel. He was booked at Torrance jail Christmas night on suspicion of murder.

He told investigating officers that his companion was shot accidentally when he stopped his car somewhere on Sepulveda Blvd. between Crenshaw and Hawthorne to show her how the rifle's safety mechanism worked.

HE SAID the rifle had been resting on the back seat of the car, and that he reached back, picked up the weapon, and was lifting it to the front of the car when it discharged, fatally wounding Mrs. Williams.

The bullet from the rifle entered the victim's left shoulder, went through her body, and emerged under the right armpit.

She was pronounced dead at South Bay Community Hospital, where Townsend had driven her after the shooting.

He told police that he had picked up Mrs. Williams earlier in the day in Lomita, and had driven around the area for some time, trying to persuade

her to go spend the rest of the holiday with her son at the 208th St. address.

THE COUPLE reportedly bought a bottle of wine which was consumed while they drove around the Torrance-Lomita area.

Late in the evening, they decided to hunt some rabbits, Townsend claimed, so they returned to his Lomita home, picked up the rifle, and were on their way to a field where

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WINS AWARD . . . Hank Mahler's efforts in bringing 212 new members into the Torrance Lomita Board of Realtors was rewarded this week with the presentation of a diamond-studded Realtor's pin. The 212 new members signed by Mahler represents an all-time high mark, it was reported.

Active Civic Leader, City Planner Dies

John Salm, pioneer Torrance industrialist and civic leader, died at his home at 2044 W. 182nd St., shortly before noon yesterday.

Mr. Salm, who established the Salm Manufacturing Co. here in the early days of the city, was a long time member of the city's planning commission, and had contributed generously of his time to the city's welfare before his retirement a few years ago.

radiant abalone pearl as the principal source of material.

HIS PRINCIPAL customers were chain stores and gift shops throughout the world.

His family home in North Torrance, once a tree-laden oasis in the bare fields, has in late years become surrounded by hundreds of other homes, but its shaded byways have never lost their charm for the Salm and friends who were privileged to visit there.

WITHIN THE past two years, a large part of the Salm estate has been sold and new homes erected. One of the stipulations, however, was that the developer save a major share of the many trees which had been planted years ago on the property.

Services will be held at the Halverson-Leavell Mortuary at 2 p.m. Saturday. Interment will be in Inglewood Park Cemetery.

HE WAS A native of Zeeland, Mich., but had lived in Torrance for much of his adult life.

He established his firm at 1801 Abalone Ave., where he manufactured a wide assortment of articles from abalone pearl, shipping it all over the world. His firm made pocket knives, thermometers, manicure sets, jewelry, fishing lures, chowder bowls, and other articles, employing the

Carson Area City Backers Meet Tonight

Discussion of a third attempt to incorporate the Carson area has been scheduled at a meeting called for 8 p.m. today at the Carson Branch Library, 22102 S. Main St., according to Earl Swanson, president of the Carson Civic Betterment Assn.

New boundaries for the proposed city have been established, and a notice of intention to seek incorporation was filed with the board of supervisors on Dec. 15.

R. B. Keith, Carson area realtor who has been active in the latest incorporation move, has been serving as temporary chairman of the group. Election of permanent committeemen will highlight tonight's meeting.

The area, bounded roughly by Lomita Blvd., Artesia, Avalon, and Vermont, covers between six and seven square miles, backers say.

Tonight's meeting is open to the public.

Workers Fall 25 Feet From New Building

Two workers who fell 25 feet from a building under construction at Hawthorne Ave. and 182nd St. were treated at a Redondo Beach hospital and later released.

James H. Morris, 34, of Covina and Manuel Trujillo, 50, who were working on a market building under construction, were knocked to the ground from the roof of the building when a boom cable hooked on a roof truss while lifting roof rafters.

Morris suffered a fractured right foot and cuts and bruises while Trujillo suffered a fractured left wrist in addition to cuts and bruises.



EYE MAKE-UP . . . Pretty Carol Mallory applies mascara (or something) to the eye-lashes of the city's "Educated Owl" which will be covered with flowers this weekend and roll along the line of march at the annual Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena next Monday. Funds for the float are still needed to defray the costs of the entry, according to Chamber Manager Dick Fitzgerald.

City Continues to Climb On Retail Sales Listing

Torrance continues its rapid climb as one of the state's top Retail Sales Cities, according to a report issued by the Statistical Department of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

Taxable Sales reached \$30,614,000 for the 2nd quarter of 1960 in figures released by the State Board of Equalization. This figure is an increase of over 7 1/2% million over the similar period in 1959 and over 13 1/2% million over the 1958 record.

The six-months total of \$56,293,000 advances Torrance to a ranking of 10th, in Los Angeles County and 24th in California. At this time last year the rankings were 16th and 35th respectively. Cities passed in the past quarter include: Alhambra, Compton, Downey, San Mateo, and South Gate.

Other area cities sales for the 2nd quarter include Gardena—\$12,041,000 (up \$717,000); Hawthorne—\$13,546,000 (down \$952,000); Manhat-

tan Beach—\$4,981,000 (up \$209,000); Redondo Beach—\$16,482,000 (up \$1,699,000); Hermosa Beach—\$7,755,000 (down \$527,000); Palos Verdes Estates—\$533,000 (same); Rolling Hills Estates—\$704,000 (up \$143,000); Rolling Hills—\$27,000 (down \$43,000); El Segundo—\$15,537,000 (down \$3,588,000).

Car License Renewal Dates Jan. 3—Feb. 4

Motorists through the State this week are receiving reminder statements mailed from the Department of Motor Vehicles, to renew their auto registrations for 1961 on or before next Feb. 4.

Applications for the red sticker that must be attached to the rear plate will be processed at 138 permanent DMV offices, some 25 special offices served by traveling crews of motor vehicle representatives, nearly 200 auto club branch offices serving organization members, and 145 temporary registration renewal stations in banks in the metropolitan areas of the State, beginning Jan. 3.

ROBERT McCarthy, director of motor vehicles, said in Sacramento:

"With more than 500 locations ready to serve California motorists in the annual registration required by law, we are prepared to handle this large operation quickly and efficiently. Automation produces a streamlined set of documents for us to handle,

and the cooperation of banks and clubs is a real public service.

"We invite those who desire the fastest and most efficient service to come to the registration offices early in renewal period. We expect applications to be mailed, but the most efficient service is had by paying the fee in person, cash at one of the many authorized offices. The applicant then receives his new registration card and rear plate sticker without any delay."

THE ONLY new feature of statement forms this year is a point to be punched by the vehicle owner if he has changed his address from that shown on the card. Directions on the statement show where the corrected new address should be written in. The punching of the cards for the change will speed the filing of the corrected records, Department officials said.

Fee statements for commercial vehicles and trailer coaches were mailed Dec. 1.

A Penny for your Thoughts

"Do you intend to make a New Year's resolution and what will you do or not do?"

The answers given by five people questioned by the Penny Photographer follow:

John Powell, 2417 - 253rd St., Lomita, service station attendant:



"Yes, I intend to make some New Year's resolutions. They are my intentions to serve the public better and make more friends in the community. These two top my list for 1961."

Randall Root, 23727 Cypress, assemblyman:



"Yes, I am going to make some resolutions for next year. I haven't decided just what they all will be, but one thing for sure I am going to try harder next year than ever before to get ahead. I mean it."

Trudy Boylan, 2714 Grand Summit Road, housewife:



"My resolution for the new year will be the same as my philosophy of life, 'Do the very best in every thing I try.' I also will pledge to keep up an active correspondence with my friends."

Charles McCray, 13, 2189 Sepulveda:



"I guess so. Yes, I will make some resolutions for next year. One will be not to fight with my brother. Next not to ditch school and

stay more while I am there. Last I will save more money or the bike I want to buy."

Jack Davis, 1782 W. 155th St., real estate salesman:



"Here we go again. Sure, I'll make some resolutions. Who doesn't? My job is to keep them—and I won't. I'll swear off the jug and playing late poker with my buddies, but who am I kidding—not my wife for sure."

School Employees Re-Elect Kendall

A. Richard Kendall has been re-elected unanimously to serve his second term as president of the Torrance School Employees Local 1101, AFL-CIO, it was announced yesterday. Also elected were Garver Long, vice president; John Doolittle, treasurer; and Thurston Whitcomb, secretary pro-tem.



TRAINING CAMP . . . Members of the city's all-star band composed of musicians from the high schools are in serious training for their Jan. 2 assignment in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade. The group will march with other select bands of the nation in the world-famous parade, which also will include a Torrance float.